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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

50X1-HUM

TOPIC Wustrow AA Firing RangeEVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                     

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DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                     DATE PREPARED 16 September 1953REFERENCES                     PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     

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1. The following observations were made at the Wustrow AA firing range between 10 and 15 August 1953:

10 August. Between 6 a.m. and 7:35 a.m., there was firing by 8 AA guns, probably 85-mm, at a fighter aircraft which was flying at an altitude of about 5,000 meters. Between 10 a.m. and 10:18 a.m., firing at sleeve target, towed at an altitude of 3,000 to 4,000 meters was practiced. At 10:40 a.m., three volleys of four bursts each were fired at an air sleeve towed by a twin-engine aircraft approaching from the sea. At 11 a.m., the twin-engine aircraft was fired at 12 times while approaching in low-level flight from the sea. Three of the bursts went into the water. Until 11:55 a.m. firing by medium AA guns at an air sleeve, at an altitude of 2,000 meters, continued. Between 5:25 p.m. and 6:25 p.m. firing by medium AA guns at an air sleeve towed by a twin-engine aircraft, at an altitude of 4,000 to 5,000 meters, was repeatedly observed.

11 August. Between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., 37-mm AA guns practiced firing at an air sleeve towed by a twin-engine plane, at an altitude of 800 to 1,500 meters. Fifteen to 18 guns were firing 3 to 4 bursts each in succession. At 11 a.m., about 80 shell bursts were seen. Between 11:40 a.m. and noon, firing by 37-mm AA guns at sleeve targets and towed at an altitude of about 2,000 meters continued. Between 12:40 p.m. and 1:55 p.m., AA guns, probably 85-mm, fired at a fighter, which flew at an altitude of 3,000 to 4,000 meters. Between 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., there was some firing by medium AA guns at an air sleeve being towed at an altitude of about 5,000 meters.

13 August. Between 5:50 a.m. and 8 a.m. and again between 5:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., there was firing by medium AA guns at an aircraft flying at a very high altitude. At least four bursts were counted on each volley.

14 and 15 August. There were no firing practices.

Comment. Information on the AAA firing range located on the Wustrow peninsula has previously been reported. Every year between the months of March and October, each medium AA battery stationed in East Germany conducts firing exercises at this range for a period of at least 14 days. The aircraft which are utilized for towing targets are most likely Pe-2s or Tu-2s and are stationed at Puetznitz airfield.

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